

**SOCIAL STRATIFICATION IN MARK TWAIN'S**

***THE PRINCE AND THE PAUPER* NOVEL (1881):**

**A SOCIOLOGICAL APPROACH**



**PUBLICATION ARTICLES**

**Submitted as a Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement**

**for Getting Bachelor Degree of Education**

**In English Department**

**by:**

**OKTRI MULATSIWI**

**A320080067**

**TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION FACULTY**

**MUHAMMADIYAH UNIVERSITY OF SURAKARTA**

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**It has been declared eligible**

**January, 22<sup>nd</sup> 2016**

Consultant I



**Drs. M. Thoyibi, M.S.**  
**NIK 410**

Consultant II



**Titis Setyabudi S.S. M.Hum.**  
**NIK 948**



**UNIVERSITAS MUHAMMADIYAH SURAKARTA**  
**FAKULTAS KEGURUAN DAN ILMU PENDIDIKAN**

Sekretariat: Jl. A. Yani Tromol Pos 1, Pabelan, Kartasura, Surakarta 57102  
Telp. (0271) 717417, 719483 (Hunting), Fax. (0271) 715448  
Website: <http://www.ums.ac.id>, E-mail: [ums@ums.ac.id](mailto:ums@ums.ac.id)

**Surat Persetujuan Artikel Publikasi Ilmiah**

Yang Bertanda tangan di bawah ini pembimbing skripsi / tugas akhir :

Nama : Dr. M. Thoyibi, M.S.

NIK : 410

Nama : Titis Setyabudi S. S, M.Hum.

NIK : 948

Telah membaca dan mencermati naskah artikel publikasi ilmiah, yang merupakan ringkasan tesis (tugas akhir) dari mahasiswa:

Nama : Oktri Mulatsiwi

NIM : A320080067

Program Studi : Bahasa Inggris

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Naskah artikel tersebut layak dan dapat disetujui untuk dipublikasikan.

Demikian persetujuan ini dibuat, semoga dapat dipergunakan seperlunya.

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Pembimbing I

Dr. M. Thoyibi, M.S.  
NIK 410

Pembimbing II

Titis Setyabudi S.S, M.Hum  
NIK 948

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NOVEL (1881): A SOCIOLOGICAL APPROACH**

**Oktri Mulatsiwi**

**A320080067**

School of Teacher Training and Education

Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta

[oktri.siwi@gmail.com](mailto:oktri.siwi@gmail.com)

**Abstract**

*This study is about Stratification. The problem of this study is how social stratification reflected in Mark Twain's *The Prince and The Pauper* novel. The object of this study is *The Prince and The Pauper* novel written by Mark Twain. It used sociological perspective. This study belongs to qualitative research. In this method, there are two types of data sources, namely primary and secondary data source. The primary data source is the novel and the secondary data source is other material related to the study. Both data are collected through library research and analyzed by descriptive analysis. The result of the study shows the following conclusion, based on the analysis it is clear that there is a close relation between this novel and social reality in America in the nineteenth century. Twain wants to criticize the case of stratification practices in America in the nineteenth century through *The Prince and The Pauper* novel.*

*Keywords: Stratification, *The Prince and the Pauper*, Sociological perspective.*

# **STRATIFIKASI SOSIAL PADA NOVEL *THE PRINCE AND THE PAUPER* (1881)**

**OLEH MARK TWAIN : PENDEKATAN SOSIOLOGI**

**Oktri Mulatsiwi**

**A320080067**

Fakultas Keguruan Ilmu Pendidikan  
Universitas Muhammadiyah Surakarta

[oktri.siwi@gmail.com](mailto:oktri.siwi@gmail.com)

## **Abstrak**

*Penelitian ini adalah tentang Stratifikasi. Permasalahan dalam penelitian ini adalah bagaimana stratifikasi tercermin pada novel *The Prince and The Pauper* yang ditulis oleh Mark Twain. Objek penelitian ini adalah novel *The Prince and The Pauper* yang ditulis oleh Mark Twain. Penelitian ini menggunakan sudut pandang sosiologi. Penelitian ini termasuk dalam penelitian kualitatif. Dalam metode ini, ada dua tipe sumber data, yaitu sumber data primer dan sumber data sekunder. Sumber data primer adalah novel *The Prince and the Pauper* yang ditulis oleh Mark Twain sedangkan sumber data sekunder adalah materi materi lain yang terkait dengan penelitian. Kedua data diperoleh dari pencarian di perpustakaan dan dianalisis dengan analisis deskriptif. Hasil dari penelitian ini menghasilkan beberapa kesimpulan, berdasarkan analisis jelas bahwa ada hubungan erat antara novel ini dengan realitas sosial di Ameika pada abad ke-19. Twain ingin mengkritisi masalah praktik stratifikasi yang terjadi di Amerika pada abad ke-19 melalui novel *The Prince and The Pauper*.*

*Kata kunci : Stratifikasi, *The Prince and the Pauper*, Sudut pandang Sosiologi*

## A. Introduction

The issue about stratification is one of the crucial issues occurs in this world. It has been inhabited a long time ago. People in this world ranks their self into some categories, the purpose of this is to differ every of them into some classes. The classes can be based on their wealth, blood and/or their color. The ranking system sometimes comes unfair because if you come from the lower class it's almost impossible for you to get a good treatment from others. The social stratification that occurs in America in the nineteenth century mostly based on the color of the skin. The black people don't have any right to be treated well because they are black. They have no right over anything. The white people in contrary they can get almost everything and are treated well even if they are in the lower class. It proves that black people even lower than the lower class itself. The issue of social stratification mostly occurs in the political and social science, but Samuel Clemens whom adopted the pen name "Mark Twain", who was also riverboat, journalist, lecturer, entrepreneur and inventor. Inserting the issue of social stratification to his novel '*The Prince and the Pauper*' which gives a critic to the King Henry VIII who was ruled England in that time, Mark Twain critics him because of his cruelty and arbitrarily as a king although he is not London civilian. And in the same time it criticizes also America that applies the stratification in the daily life.

According to Kerbo,2003:11, social stratification is a concept of class, involving the classification of persons into group based on shared socio-economic conditions a relational set of inequalities with economic, social, political and ideological dimensions. There are three layers: upper class, middle class and lower class. It can be called by social differentiation, which occurs quite simply, we find people with distinct individual qualities and social roles. People are differentiated in term of biological characteristics such as sex, size, strength, and agility; and in every society they are differentiated (at least to some degree) by social roles, work tasks, or occupations. From the definition above, we can take a conclusion that social stratification is the system that ranks and differences people into the classes based on the economic, social, political and ideological dimensions.

The writer finds two previous study dealing with this reseach. The first reseacher is Renny Widiarti (2005) entitled “*Anxiety in Mark Twain’s The Prince and the pauper novel: A Psychoanalytic Approach*”. She analyzes the novel used psychoanalytic perspective focuses in the issue of anxiety. Then in this study, the writer analyzes Mark Twain’s *The Prince and the Pauper* novel based on the psychological approach. The writer focuses on anxiety reflected in the novel. The second is Wiharja (2009) entitled “*Kritik Terhadap Hukum Yang Tidak Manusiawi Dalam Novel The Prince and The Pauper Karya Mark Twain*”. His research is aimed to analyze whether this novel was a critic for the discrimination in law and its inhumane torture and punishment. The method used in this thesis is library research. The structural approach is used to analyze all intrinsic aspects such as characters, settings, and theme; while literary sociology and law sociology are used to analyze the extrinsic aspect and the relation with the critic for law.

*The Prince and the Pauper* is a novel by American author Mark Twain. It was first published in 1881 in Canada, before its 1882 publication in the United States. The novel represents Twain's first attempt at historical fiction. Set in 1547, it tells the story of two young boys who are identical in appearance: Tom Canty, a pauper who lives with his abusive father in Offal Court off Pudding Lane in London, and Prince Edward, son of King Henry VIII. Edward never expects that his idea of changing outfit with Tom will bring him to an unexpected journey. But finally everything comes to a good ending. It leaves a deep learning toward Edward and also Tom.

In this paper, the researcher wants to explain more about the social stratification in Mark Twain’s *The Prince and The Pauper* novel.

## **B. Research Method**

In this study, the researcher applies qualitative research that is research which employs the method of collecting, describing, classifying and analyzing the data and the drawing conclusion to conduct the research (Denzin and Lincoln, 2005: 3). In this method, there are two types of data source, namely primary and secondary data source. All primary data are taken from the novel, here is *The Prince and the Pauper* novel

written by Mark Twain (1881). Secondly, secondary data are taken from journal, internet, textbook and articles. Both data are collected through library research (Denzin and Lincoln, 2005: 3). In collecting data, the researcher takes some steps as follow: reading the novel repeatedly, taking notes of important parts both primary and secondary data, arranging the data into several groups based on its theoretical category, selecting particular parts considered important and relevant for analysis and drawing conclusion. In analyzing the data, the writer applies a descriptive approach (Denzin and Lincoln, 2005: 11). The steps of technique of the data analysis are compiled as follows: (a) analyzing the structural elements of the novel. (b) Trying to decide the individual psychological analysis of literary work (c) making discussion of the finding (d) making conclusion.

### **C. Finding and Discussion**

The researcher gets some findings in analyzing *The Prince and the Pauper* novel. Each finding has some cases to be discussed. After they have examined, all of components will get back together in schematic manner in the discussion.

#### **1. Findings**

In analyzing *The Prince and the Pauper* novel, the researcher gets some findings. There are reflections of social stratification in *The Prince and the Pauper* novel and reflection of social stratification in the reality in America.

##### **a. Stratification**

The practices of stratification can be found in the novel. It covers some aspects. The writer will also discuss the practices of stratification in reality. Focus will be paid on the cases of stratification in American society in the nineteenth century. The explanation will be delivered below:

##### **1) Social Aspect**

The social structure contributes to the characters in *The Prince and the Pauper* novel. The social structure of English society is divided into three classes; they are upper class, middle class, and lower class. The social stratification that



occurs in England is Closed Social Stratification. It means that the member of each social classes in this case from the middle and lower class will not go up to the class up them. It is hard for them to move vertically. In here the ordinary people will be still ordinary till death. But here in the novel, finally Tom Canty and his mother also sisters can move to the upper class because of something unexpected. Just like shows in the novel, the social stratification that occurs in America is Closed Social Stratification, the people from the lower class cannot go vertically. But in America, the crucial case that occurs is apartheid politic, it places the black people to the lowest class. They even have no right for anything, even for their life.

The upper class here is them who are in the highest position. They are Kings, The Princes and the royal families that have higher status than others. The people in the upper class rule the kingdom and get admiration from others. They live in a good wealth. While in America the first class belongs to the people who have been born into and raised into wealth, mostly consists of noble and prestigious families. There is also individual who has become rich within their own lifetimes, for example entrepreneurship and movie stars. They also live in a good wealth and also admired by people.

Middle class is described as a group under upper class. Middle class in the story are Lords. They serve people in the upper class. In other word they are the servants of the King. While in America, the middle class is people with high salary such as doctors, lawyers, executive workers. Also people which are positioned by individual, who has lower payment, for example police officers, teachers and small business owner

Lower class is described as a group under the upper class and middle class. The social structure also contributes the setting of place in play. Mark describes vertical different classes that happened between rich people and the poor ones, While King and Family live in a luxurious England palace the people from the lower class lives in a dirty small place in the edge of the city. They work hard everyday from

morning to evening, we can say that they slave their selves for the people up there, in other word they feed all. The lower class shows in the novel is Tom Canty and his family. Lower class in America is placed by laborers, it is also called working class. They also include the homeless and permanently unemployment and also the poor workers. The black people who will be slave for their whole life also in this class, they even lower then the white people who is in the same class. Incontrary with England the member of the lower class in America also live their life in suffer, because they have to work hard a whole day and they even have an appropriate house to live. Especially the black people who belongs nothing.

## 2) Economic Aspect

In King Henry VIII reign, England has stabilization in economic. But in this era, limitation between rich people and poor people is high. So, Mark compares the condition between the prince and the pauper as the representation of gap that is occurs that time.

There was no talk in all England but of the new baby, Edward Tudor, Prince of Wales, who lay lapped in silks and satins, unconscious of all this fuss, and not knowing that great lords and ladies were tending him and watching over him—and not caring, either. But there was no talk about the other baby, Tom Canty, lapped in his poor rags, except among the family of paupers whom he had just come to trouble with his presence. (TPTP. 2005:10)

While America continues to advance into an industrial ruler of the world, the quest so to the 20th century, known as the American Century glories or the American Century. In this century, the American expanding influences the international arena and become a center of innovation and technology in the world when it was. Some technology donations, including phones, televisions, computers, Internet, nuclear weapons, aircraft and space travel. But still there is a gap between the rich and the poor, the white and the black.

### **3) Political Aspect**

Mark brings political aspect to give important issue. In this issue mark shows readers how politic system working in King Henry VIII. King Henry VIII is father from Queen Elizabeth I. As a King of England, he leads the country cool handed and his power is absolute. In contrary with England the United States is a constitutional democracy with a three-tier system and independent judicial institution. There are three levels, namely national, state, and local governments have the legislative and executive bodies with the power of their respective fields. This state uses a system of federalism in which the partnership or in the central state and the state share the power. The central state power against some things like printing US currency and defense policy. However, the states power to determine the rights and laws of each baby as abortion rights and the maximum penalty in the case law.

### **4) Science and Technology Aspect**

The technology shows in the novel is war equipment that was used by the troops, they are rifle and canon. While the other technology that appeared in the novel from the transportation equipment is ship. Compare with America the development of science was expanded faster. It proved by there are many invention through the century. Several significant inventions and improvement of technology in agriculture, manufacture, transportation, communication and many others fields brought more changes in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

### **5) Cultural Aspect**

Mark shows the cultural aspect of British society in their ceremonies and language. There are some ceremonies done by British, they are wedding ceremonies, death ceremonies, Church's legalization to promote King. In the Church's legalization to promote King ceremony there is a signal, a triumphant peal of music burst forth and the probable King clothed in a long robe of cloth of gold, appeared at a door, and stepped upon the platform. While in America we can find some

American beliefs include individual freedom, choice in education, the family, privacy, and progressive belief. Nineteenth century American society provides a clear example of the way in which oppression, bondage, and capitalism interacted to redefine, shape, and determine the lives of black Americans. There have been numerous accounts defining the context of slavery for blacks and how black women operated in slave society.

## **6) Religious Aspect**

Mark describes religious aspect in King Henry era to show Catholic and Protestant. Mark describes religious aspect not clearly. There is problem between Catholic and Christian. While in America the government guarantees American to practice religious of their own choice, there is no official register of American religious status. However most of the 19<sup>th</sup> century American embraced protestant which is various sect and demon nations as it is explained briefly in social aspect. Some religions in America are catholic, Islam, Jews, Buddhism, others belief.

### **b. The Cause of Stratification Practices**

The social stratification here happens automatically because of some factors such as wealth, power and blood. The practices of social stratification in *The prince and the Pauper* novel happens because the people from the upper class claims that they are the best compare with the people under them. Contrary with England where stratification there occurs mostly because of blood the stratification that occurs in America mostly caused by skin, it is the conflict that happens between white people and black. America is the country where mostly the population there is white. The white people rules everything, white people belong to the up class. Black people in America just life as a slave for their whole life, they don't even have right over anything even for their own self. It happens because white people claims themselves as the best ones.

### c. **The Effect of Stratification Practice**

The practices of stratification give some effects toward society.

#### **1) Exclusivism**

Exclusivism here means action to be exclusive, the social stratification system puts people in a certain class causes them claims that only its principle is true. They only admire their own group, in *The Prince and the Pauper* novel the exclusivism occurs in the upper class, they don't wanna get close to the people under their class, they only relate themselves with people who is in the same class with them. They dress, eat, and live differently with their people. There is also exclusivism happens in the American society the white people in America especially them whom are in the upper class claim that they are exclusive, they don't want to relate with others who are in the lower especially the black ones because they think that black people does not evet have right to live in their country

#### **2) Ethnocentrism**

Ethnocentrism here means they only admire their own group, they claim that they are the best. In *The Prince and the Pauper* novel the upper class think that they are the most educated and behaved person, they claims that the people under their class is not good and respectable. While the people from the lower class claims that the upper class people is just consumptive, they claim that the attitude of the upper class is inhuman and less emphaty toward suffered people. The admiration toward their own class is the form of Ethnocentrism. As happens in *The Prince and the Pauper* novel, it happens also in American society. White people in America always put themselves in the upper place, the always claims that they are higher then the black ones.

### 3) Social Conflict

The differences between those classes causes social jealousy or envy. If those things occurs repeatedly it can causes social conflict between them. The social conflict that might happen is rebellion. While in America the differences between white and black people can causes social gap between them, black people never gets a fair treatment from the society because of their skin. If those things occurs repeatedly it can causes social conflict between them. The social conflict that might happen is chaos in the society.

#### d. Resolution Problem

In *The Prince and the Pauper* novel the solution for the problem that occurs in the society is Edward. Edward who has been through a life of the lower class. He realizes how suffers it is, and how far the distance between the rich and the poor ones. When finally he is crowned as a King, he is capable in making a good atmosphere between the people. While in America there should be a law that rule about the inequality between people.

## 2. Discussion

Through this story, readers can find a variety of unique stories. This story gives the reader an idea that life has a color. Mark presents two characters enough to give this story becomes interesting. Tom Canty and Edward Tudor are two children with different backgrounds. Tom Canty was born of a poor family. Edward Tudor born of the royal family. Starting from a desire Edward Tudor who want to live like the ordinary people. Finally it was answered when he met with Tom Canty. Edward understood that life outside the kingdom is difficult. Edward is confident that with her life beyond will emerge a variety of new problems. Various events experienced Edward gives him a lot of understanding of the meaning of a life. Edward believes that justice needs to be enforced. At that time, justice is limited in middle and upper class society. It is so inhuman if it does not apply in the lower classes. Things to know that slavery became one of the problems to be solved. Edward became a commoner is not by chance. He wants to feel

the lives of ordinary people. She wants to see things what people felt in the lower classes. He wants to know just what the kingdom could do. Edward found the fact that life outside the kingdom is not easy. He understands that life among the lower classes is very difficult. He hopes when he returns to the kingdom he can provide suggestions to his father. He is also getting ready when he became crown prince and replaces his father, he will provide the best for people both of the upper class to the lower class. Tom who replaced Edward in the kingdom also has its own story. He wished he could make something fun in the kingdom. However when he entered the kingdom he found many things that make him uncomfortable. He did not feel free. He must obey the rules of the kingdom. He became a threat to the enemies of his father Edward. Tom was born among the lower class, but he's not a stupid kid. He is a smart child. He is very good at adapting in royal surroundings. He is very good at reading the situation and conditions. He has hope for Edward to improve the system of monarch. Tom understands life in the palace was not easy. He continued to study so that his identity is not known to others. He continued to dig into things what needs to be done so that the kingdom be good and the people become happy. Twain issues raised in this story about social circumstances. He sees the history of the British Empire in the king Henry VIII as the background story of the prince and the Pauper. During the period of king Henry VIII many emerging problems. Of various events such as the economic situation after the crusade ended. The emergence of immigrants from outside the England who want to stay in the England. The issue with big countries that also neighbors, Spain and France. The problems are territorial border and colonization. Personally, king Henry VIII also have conditions that are not harmonious family. Have some children but in the real life his successor is not a boy. Unless daughter Elizabeth that would become the first English queen that will bring the UK to the golden age. The other problem is the King Henry against pope about England church that has some different concept of God with catholic concept. Those things are tried developed by Twain as his criticism of the government and American citizens in the 18-19 centuries which are unfair to the lower classes.in conclusion Mark wants to tell the social problem in America through this story. The big problem is about social classes and slave system and women movement. Mark tells to the reader through

this story that he hopes about good system that have positive effect for poor people in America in this case mostly of them is black. He uses the prince in story to show justice is work. Mark gives the solution for the problem in America through this story. He hopes America can concern about slave system that have bad effect in human right. He hopes the problems between rich and poor people can be resolved. And he hopes, all women have place in all life aspects. An an author of *Ithe Prince and the Pauper*, Twain takes part in presenting more about the practices of stratification that occurs in the society. He describes stratification practices through his novel. In his novel he presents some stories that contain stratification practices also the differences treatment that gotten by the upper, middle and lower class. He makes some characters to deliver his idea. To criticize stratification, he makes major characters that are Edward Tudor and Tom Canty. Edward here is the Prince of the Kingdom who is going to be a King one day, and in contrary Tom Canty here is the poor boy from the lower class who is no one. By changing their place Twain wants to show that it is hard to be people in the lower class. Edward who is brave and smart can get through the difficulties that he faces when he becomes the pauper. Twains wants to present the struggle done by people in the lower class. And Tom Canty in contrary enjoys his life as a Prince in the palace. But still he is an honest a good boy, when edward comes to claim his throne he says so that thing, he clarifies that the boy that comes is Edward. It also proves that even if he gets through a hard life he still can be a good person. Twains wants to show that no matter your class is you still human being, you have right and power to define your life.

#### **D. Conclusion**

After analyzing *The Prince and the Pauper*, the researcher draws the following conclusion. The researcher concludes that Mark twain describes social America is same in period life of King Henry VIII era. Mark hopes by this story can be inspiration to America people. The author criticizes some aspects in the play such as social aspect, economic aspect, political aspect, science and technology aspect, cultural aspect and religious aspect. The social aspects contain social structure. Mark shows justice and dreams in aspects that have relation with social analysis. Mark wants to tell the social



condition at England in King Henry VIII that has relation with American around 18-19 eras by *The Prince and The Pauper*, This Play emphasizes to the social aspect. *The Prince and the Pauper* shows that justice and dreams are important for American people. Mark wants to tell the social problem in America through this story. The big problem is about social classes and slave system and women movement. Mark tells to the reader through this story that he hopes about good system that have positive effect for poor people in America. He uses the prince in story to show justice is work. Mark gives the solution for the problem in America through this story. He hopes America can concern about slave system that have bad effect in human right. He hopes the problems between rich and poor people can be resolved. And he hopes, all women have place in all life aspects.

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